

NINETY-FOURTH
ANNUAL REPORT

MECHANICS'
INSTITUTE

SAN FRANCISCO 4
CALIFORNIA

NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-NINE



Ninety-fourth Annual Report

OF THE

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE

FOR THE

Year Ending February 28, 1949

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE OFFICERS

Board of Trustees

Year Ending February 28, 1949

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ELGIN STODDARD | <i>President</i> |
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| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| GENEVIEVE TOMPKINSON | <i>Secretary</i> |
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Library Staff

JOHN C. STUMP

Acting Librarian

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| ELSIE R. WORLEY | <i>Cataloguer</i> |
| IRENE WILBERT | <i>Reference Librarian</i> |
| MIRIAM PEEVEY | <i>Assistant Reference Librarian</i> |
| NORMAN GREEN | <i>Chief, Circulation Department</i> |
| DOROTHY CLARK | <i>General Assistant</i> |
| MARY LOGAN | <i>Assistant, Circulation Department</i> |
| JOSEPHINE THOMPSON | <i>Assistant, Circulation Department</i> |
| CHARLOTTE JAMES | <i>Assistant, Circulation Department</i> |
| ROSE M. O'TOOLE | <i>Book Processor</i> |
| CONSTANCE KING | <i>Evening Assistant Circulation Department</i> |
| ROBERT J. MOORE | <i>Evening Assistant Reference Department</i> |

MARY O. CARMODY

Librarian Emeritus

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE

Mechanics'-Mercantile Library

Mechanics' Institute Chess and Checker Club

57 Post Street
San Francisco 4, California

The Library now contains over one hundred and forty-seven thousand volumes.

Special attention is given to the division of technology.

Over five hundred periodicals and newspapers are on file.

A chess and checker room is maintained, where smoking is permitted.

Library open daily, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Chess room, daily, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Entrance Fee | \$ 1.00 |
| Half-yearly Dues (in advance) | 3.00 |
| Life Membership | 100 00 |

Non-residents may use the Library for one month on payment of fifty cents.

A member may introduce a friend (not a resident of the city), who will be allowed the use of the Library rooms for one month.

LIBRARY RULES

Members are entitled to take out four books at a time, provided, however, that only two books of new fiction or current magazines marked "One Week Only," whether regular books or extra books, may be out at the same time on one membership. Extra books may be taken out on payment of five cents each.

All new fiction and new magazines may be kept out one week only, and are not renewable. All other circulating books, except where marked "One Week" or "Seven Days," may be kept out two weeks and may be renewed for two weeks longer unless marked "Not Renewable." Renewal notice may be given by mail or telephone (GARfield 1-1750).

An overdue charge of five cents a day will be made on all one week books, current magazines and books marked "Not Renewable." On other books a charge of two cents a day will be made.

Reservation postals may be left for all circulating books.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

San Francisco, California

April 5, 1949

To the Members of the Mechanics' Institute:

This year marks the 100th Anniversary of the discovery of gold in California and the 94th anniversary of the founding of the Mechanics' Institute. The story of the Institute for these 94 years is written large in the history of our City of San Francisco particularly, and of the State of California in general. The educational facilities that the Institute has afforded to its membership, particularly to members in various professional fields, has been recognized as of great value to our City and our State and was of especial value to the outstanding men and their associates who through the years have established and directed industrial works, manufacturing plants and utilities which have been, and are, nowhere excelled.

The Institute was a source of aid to the early pioneers who founded it and impelled its permanent foundation. Their object and hopes were that those who came after them, and the public of the City and State that they served, might enjoy the same opportunities to achieve success. Their efforts were recognized in the highly respected standing that the Institute has maintained for the promotion of the objects for which it was founded and valued by the western world.

The wise administration of its affairs by the long line of successful business and professional men is shown by its well preserved financial and educational principles.

For the year just ended the report indicates that the Library has on its shelves at the present time a total of approximately 147,000 volumes, general in character, but particularly rich in the technological, scientific, useful arts and fine arts sections. As an Association of readers of various

tastes, our Library has endeavored to maintain a reasonable balance in its book collection. The increase in patronage in our Reference Department is the best indication of its value to the student, professional and research members. This year shows a slight decrease in fiction circulation.

The building for the past five years has been full to capacity and its receipts show a slight increase over last year. The installation of the new elevators has been completed, the plumbing throughout the building rehabilitated and many of the offices in the building redecorated. All these improvements account for the slight increase in building Expenditures.

The financial condition of the Institute continues to be very satisfactory and our income from investments has increased considerably, thanks to the sound judgment of our Finance Committee and of your Board of Trustees.

During the year the Chess Club had a complete refurbishing and now the room is one of which our Members may well be proud. Some of the most celebrated chess events have taken place here and several of our members are famous in the chess world.

The Annual Election for seven Trustees was held on March 22, 1949, and resulted in the re-election of Messrs. Constant J. Auger, Charles Bagby, Stetson G. Hindes, Jos. D. Hodgen, Warren H. McBryde, H. L. Slosson, Jr., and Arthur E. Wilkens.

During the year our Librarian, Mrs. Mary O. Carmody, took a well-earned leave of absence. Your Board of Trustees appointed Mr. John C. Stump as Acting Librarian during her absence. Mr. Stump is to be commended for his efficient and faithful efforts.

The Board desires to thank the Members of the Library Staff for the efficient and courteous performance of their various duties. The usefulness of the Library has been greatly enhanced by the quality of this service.

And, finally, I feel grateful for the courteous and effective cooperation by my fellow Trustees in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the Institute, which it has been my privilege to serve as President.

ELGIN STODDARD
President

SECRETARY'S REPORT

For the Year Ending Feb. 28, 1949

San Francisco, April 5, 1949

To the Board of Trustees of the Mechanics' Institute,
San Francisco.

Gentlemen:—

I have the honor to present herewith financial statement of the Mechanics' Institute for the year ending February 28, 1949:

| | |
|--|--------------|
| March 1, 1948, Cash on deposit in various banks..... | \$ 59,056.45 |
| Cash in revolving funds..... | 550.00 |
| Total Cash | \$ 59,606.45 |

RECEIPTS

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Mechanics' Institute Building—rent collections, etc. from March 1, 1948 to February 28, 1949..... | \$ 75,642.20 |
| Interest, Ernest N. Atkins Memorial Fund..... | 24.96 |
| Interest, James Lick Fund..... | 250.00 |
| Interest, Savings Accounts..... | 218.35 |
| Interest, Bills Receivable and Mortgages..... | 84.96 |
| Interest, Bonds | 11,136.11 |
| Dividends, Preferred Stocks | 11,035.00 |
| Dividends, Common Stocks | 17,394.46 |
| Library and General Administration: | |

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Dues | \$24,716.00 |
| Entrance Fees | 911.00 |
| Life Memberships | 200.00 |
| Books Paid For | 340.86 |
| Fines and Extra Books | 2,767.15 |
| Sundry | 2.85 |
| | <u>28,937.86</u> |

| | |
|-------------|--------------|
| Total | \$144,723.90 |
|-------------|--------------|

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Received from Investment Accounts: | |
| Payments on Notes Receivable..... | 170.00 |
| Payment on Mortgages Receivable..... | 1,000.00 |
| Sale of Bonds | \$392,331.70 |

\$393,501.70

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Total cash received | 538,225.60 |
| | <u>\$597,832.05</u> |

EXPENDITURES

Mechanics' Institute Building — Operating expenses from March 1, 1948 to February 28, 1949:

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Pay Roll | \$ 33,313.79 |
| Taxes | 12,312.86 |
| Insurance | 979.94 |
| Heat | 1,057.55 |
| Light and Power | 3,127.99 |
| Water | 346.08 |
| Window Cleaning | 329.33 |
| Supplies | 945.48 |
| Repairs | 10,521.13 |
| General Expense | 775.66 |
| | <u>\$ 63,709.81</u> |

Library and General Administration:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Books, Binding and Periodicals..... | \$ 13,432.73 |
| General Expense | 3,873.28 |
| Insurance | 263.31 |
| Legal Expense | 250.00 |
| Printing and Stationery | 829.79 |
| Salaries | 33,685.98 |
| Supplies | 173.44 |
| Monthly Bulletin | 414.58 |
| Rent of Library Rooms | 18,720.00 |
| | <u>71,643.11</u> |

Total Operating Expense \$135,352.92

Investment Account:

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Bonds Purchased | \$142,409.51 |
| Common Stocks Purchased..... | 118,343.44 |
| Preferred Stocks Purchased..... | 55,389.96 |
| Post Street Building and equipment | 16,729.48 |

Total

332,872.39

Total Cash Paid Out..... \$468,225.31

Cash on hand in various Banks, Feb. 28, 1949.... \$129,056.74

Cash on hand in revolving fund..... 550.00

Total Cash on Hand..... \$129,606.74

\$597,832.05

SUMMARY

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Cash on Hand, March 1, 1948..... | 59,606.45 |
| Total Income | 144,723.90 |
| Total Expense | 135,352.92 |
| | <u>9,370.98</u> |
| Excess Receipts | 393,501.70 |
| Received from Investment Accounts..... | 462,479.13 |
| | <u>332,872.39</u> |
| Less Investments Made | 332,872.39 |
| Cash on Hand, February 28, 1949..... | 129,606.74 |

The above figures indicate that the cash receipts (excluding the amounts received and expended for Investment Accounts) were \$9,370.98 in excess of Expenditures.

The net amount expended since April 18, 1906, on Books and Periodicals and binding of new books has been.....\$460,979.45

The amount paid out for construction, equipment, etc., of the Post Street Building has been..... 397,212.91

Insurance is carried as follows:

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Books, Furnishings and other contents..... | \$150,000.00 |
| Post Street Building | 435,000.00 |

The Resources of the Mechanics' Institute are as follows:

Post Street lot covered by Mechanics' Institute Building.
First Mortgages for \$1,000.00 on San Francisco Real Estate.
Bonds to the par value of \$319,200.00, as follows:

| | |
|--------------|---|
| \$ 10,000.00 | Allis Chalmers Manufacturing Co. 2%. |
| 25,000.00 | American Telephone & Telegraph Co. 2¾ %. |
| 10,000.00 | American Tobacco Company 3%. |
| 10,000.00 | Caterpillar Tractor Company 2%. |
| 10,000.00 | Government of the Dominion of Canada 4%. |
| 10,000.00 | Southern California Edison Company, Ltd. 3%. |
| 10,000.00 | Southern California Gas Company 3¼ %. |
| 10,000.00 | Southern Pacific Railroad Company 2¾ %. |
| 10,000.00 | Southern Railway Co. 4%. |
| 10,000.00 | The Texas Corporation 3%. |
| 10,000.00 | West Penn-Power Company 3½ %. |
| 10,000.00 | Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co. 2½ %. |
| 29,200.00 | United States Savings Bonds (paying 2.9%) |
| 125,000.00 | United States Savings Bonds of Defense 2½ %. |
| 5,000.00 | United States Treasury Bonds 2¾ %. |
| 25,000.00 | United States Treasury Bonds 2%. |

PREFERRED STOCK as follows:

| | |
|-----|---|
| 20 | American Snuff Co.—6% Pfd. |
| 150 | American Tobacco Co.—6% Pfd. |
| 200 | Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Ry.—5%. |
| 100 | Commonwealth & Southern—\$6.00. |
| 100 | Consolidated Edison Company—\$5.00. |
| 100 | Crown Zellerbach Corp.—\$4.20. |
| 100 | Electric Power and Light Co.—\$6.00. |
| 200 | General Motors Corp.—\$5.00. |
| 100 | Niagara Hudson Power Co.—\$5.00. |
| 600 | Pacific Gas & Electric—6% 1st Pfd. |
| 100 | Pacific Telephone & Telegraph—6% Pfd. |
| 500 | Southern California Gas—6% Ser. A Pfd. |
| 200 | Union Pacific R. R.—4% Pfd. |
| 200 | U. S. Smelting, Refining & Mining—7% Pfd. |
| 200 | U. S. Steel Corp.—7% Pfd. |
| 600 | Virginian Railway Co.—6% Pfd. |

COMMON STOCK as follows:

| |
|---|
| 200 Aetna Life Insurance Co. |
| 100 Allied Chemical & Dye Corp. |
| 200 Allis Chalmers Mfg. |
| 100 American Telephone & Telegraph |
| 200 Carnaco Equipment Co. |
| 200 Carnation Co. |
| 150 Caterpillar Tractor Co. |
| 200 Continental Insurance Co. |
| 400 Crown Zellerbach Corp. |
| 100 E. I. Dupont de Nemours & Co. |
| 125 Electric Auto Lite Co. |
| 300 General Electric Company |
| 200 General Foods Corp. |
| 150 General Motors Corp. |
| 200 Gulf Oil Co. |
| 300 Inland Steel Co. |
| 300 McKesson & Robbins Co. |
| 200 Montgomery Ward |
| 200 Norfolk & Western Ry. Co. |
| 300 Pacific Gas & Electric Co. |
| 200 Pacific Lighting Corp. |
| 100 Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co. |
| 420 Standard Oil Co. of California |
| 210 - 25/200 Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey |
| 200 Sterling Drug, Inc. |
| 3 - 5/65 Texas Gulf Sulphur Co. |
| 200 Union Pacific Co. |
| 300 United Fruit Co. |
| 200 U. S. Smelting, Refining & Mining |
| 600 Virginia Electric and Power Co. |

Cash on hand March 1, 1949, \$129,606.74.
Books, Furniture and Equipment of the Library.

Respectfully submitted,
GENEVIEVE TOMPKINSON, *Secretary*

REPORT OF THE LIBRARY

For the Year Ending February 28, 1949

San Francisco, California, April 5, 1949

To the President and Board of Trustees, Mechanics' Institute.

Gentlemen: I herewith submit the ninety-fourth annual report of the Library for the year ending February 28, 1949.

| Membership | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|-------|
| March 1, 1948..... | | 5,134 |
| Added—Subscribing | 913 | |
| Reinstated | 19 | 932 |
| | | 6,066 |
| Withdrawn—Life (deceased) | 18 | |
| Subscribing | 903 | 921 |
| | | 5,145 |

During the year 24 subscribing members who had paid dues continuously for thirty years were, according to the Constitution, made life members. One life membership was purchased.

The membership was divided as follows:

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Life | 544 |
| Subscribing | 4,601 |
| | 5,145 |

Book Accessions

| | | |
|---|-------|---------|
| Number of volumes listed March 1, 1948..... | | 145,675 |
| Added by purchase..... | 2,749 | |
| Added by binding | 287 | |
| Added by gift..... | 261 | 3,297 |
| | | 148,972 |
| Less lost, paid for and discarded..... | | 2,019 |
| Number of volumes listed February 28, 1949..... | | 146,953 |

Circulation

There were issued for home use 173,866 volumes, an average monthly circulation of 14,489 volumes.

Accessions by Classes

| | Purchased | Cost | Bound | Cost | Gifts | Total |
|---------------------------|-----------|------------|-------|------------|-------|-------|
| General Works | 32 | \$ 130.56 | 30 | \$ 174.25 | 16 | 78 |
| Philosophy | 83 | 208.20 | 2 | 9.90 | 13 | 98 |
| Religion | 42 | 88.72 | | | 5 | 47 |
| Sociology | 219 | 851.29 | 23 | 136.35 | 91 | 333 |
| Philology | 7 | 18.67 | | | | 7 |
| Science | 95 | 354.71 | 55 | 302.25 | 17 | 167 |
| Useful Arts | 299 | 1,057.43 | 149 | 869.05 | 58 | 506 |
| Fine Arts | 221 | 652.04 | 22 | 121.90 | 6 | 249 |
| Literature | 134 | 345.56 | | | 12 | 146 |
| Travel | 143 | 392.82 | 4 | 18.80 | 6 | 153 |
| Biography | 182 | 518.75 | | | 7 | 189 |
| History | 150 | 437.20 | 2 | 8.90 | 6 | 158 |
| Fiction and Juvenile..... | 1,142 | 2,333.72 | | | 24 | 1,166 |
| | 2,749 | \$7,389.67 | 287 | \$1,641.40 | 261 | 3,297 |

Table of Circulation Statistics

| | | | |
|------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|---------|
| General works | 407 | Literature | 9,182 |
| Philosophy | 4,017 | Foreign literature..... | 310 |
| Religion | 1,898 | Travel | 8,087 |
| Sociology | 5,773 | Biography | 9,454 |
| Philology | 425 | History | 6,660 |
| Science | 4,387 | Fiction | 97,563 |
| Useful arts | 10,183 | Periodicals | 7,311 |
| Fine arts | 8,048 | Juvenile | 161 |
| | | Total | 173,866 |
| Fiction | | 97,678 volumes, 56.00 per cent | |
| Non-fiction | | 76,188 volumes, 44.00 per cent | |
| Adult books | | 173,705 volumes, 99.91 per cent | |
| Children's books | | 161 volumes, 00.09 per cent | |

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN C. STUMP
Acting Librarian

APPENDIX

| Year Ending Feb. 28 | Sub- scribing | Membership Life | Total | Volumes Library | Circula- tion |
|---------------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------|--------------------|------------------|
| 1949..... | 4,601 | 544 | 5,145 | 146,953 | 173,866 |
| 1948..... | 4,598 | 536 | 5,134 | 145,675 | 177,309 |
| 1947..... | 4,613 | 533 | 5,146 | 143,710 | 177,163 |
| 1946..... | 4,275 | 528 | 4,803 | 142,468 | 168,406 |
| 1945..... | 3,655 | 614 | 4,269 | 141,988 | 158,477 |
| 1944..... | 3,096 | 610 | 3,708 | 141,832 | 141,657 |
| 1943..... | 2,708 | 598 | 3,308 | 142,328 | 136,483 |
| 1942..... | 2,875 | 591 | 3,466 | 142,095 | 151,106 |
| 1941..... | 3,048 | 584 | 3,632 | 142,376 | 166,928 |
| 1940..... | 3,243 | 555 | 3,800 | 139,908 | 181,945 |
| 1939..... | 3,299 | 563 | 3,862 | 137,655 | 189,748 |
| 1938..... | 3,296 | 562 | 3,858 | 135,463 | 192,507 |
| 1937..... | 3,404 | 570 | 3,974 | 132,273 | 197,969 |
| 1936..... | 3,407 | 590 | 3,997 | 130,355 | 212,344 |
| 1935..... | 3,312 | 598 | 3,910 | 127,815 | 220,372 |
| 1934..... | 3,290 | 604 | 3,896 | 124,425 | 230,545 |
| 1933..... | 3,517 | 649 | 4,166 | 121,666 | 250,140 |
| 1932..... | 3,835 | 664 | 4,499 | 118,928 | 254,205 |
| 1931..... | 3,878 | 666 | 4,546 | 114,347 | 237,974 |
| 1930..... | 3,748 | 677 | 4,425 | 108,697 | 208,552 |
| 1929..... | 3,657 | 679 | 4,336 | 103,123 | 176,174 |
| 1928..... | 3,789 | 703 | 4,492 | 98,195 | 165,253 |
| 1927..... | 4,032 | 702 | 4,734 | 102,056 | 161,980 |
| 1926..... | 4,030 | 690 | 4,723 | 98,696 | 164,347 |
| 1925..... | 4,170 | 690 | 4,860 | 94,992 | 169,631 |
| 1924..... | 4,356 | 652 | 5,008 | 91,433 | 172,712 |
| 1923..... | 4,317 | 657 | 4,974 | 87,855 | 172,902 |
| 1922..... | 4,160 | 646 | 4,806 | 84,056 | 175,502 |
| 1921..... | 3,842 | 650 | 4,492 | 80,776 | 150,376 |
| 1920..... | 3,408 | 649 | 4,057 | 77,140 | 128,480 |
| 1919..... | 2,994 | 653 | 3,647 | 73,128 | 101,728 |
| 1918..... | 3,135 | 590 | 3,725 | 70,055 | 118,159 |
| 1917..... | 3,144 | 598 | 3,742 | 65,875 | 132,721 |
| 1916..... | 2,982 | 617 | 3,599 | 63,672 | 127,866 |
| 1915..... | 2,862 | 626 | 3,488 | 56,740 | 131,687 |
| 1914..... | 2,709 | 632 | 3,341 | 50,776 | 125,650 |
| 1913..... | 2,855 | 643 | 3,498 | 44,527 | 118,998 |
| 1912..... | 2,660 | 644 | 3,304 | 39,266 | 110,194 |
| 1911..... | 2,385 | 651 | 3,036 | 35,392 | 88,753 |
| 1910..... | 1,717 | 645 | 2,362 | 32,186 | 71,741 |
| 1909..... | 2,034 | 646 | 2,680 | 28,324 | 83,042 |
| 1908..... | 2,120 | 643 | 2,763 | 24,179 | |
| 1907..... | 2,726 | 651 | 3,377 | 17,850 | |
| April 18, 1906.. | | | 4,150 | | |

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE PUBLICATIONS

In Print

Annual Reports, 1907 to date.

List of books on architecture, August, 1913.

List of books on building and building materials. December, 1913.

List of books on electrical engineering. June, 1916.

List of books on petroleum. January, 1917.

List of books on aeronautics and military and naval engineering. January, 1918.

List of books added, 1914 to date.

List of periodical literature on file in the Mechanics' Institute Library, 1928.

Compiled by Mary O. Carmody.

Seventy-five years of history of the Mechanics' Institute, compiled by John H. Wood, Secretary, 1930.